



Prospectus and Call for Artists
for
Public Art on the New Mexico Commuter Rail Project

Submission Deadline: Monday, April 4, 2005 – 4:00 p.m.

Project Amount: Up to \$20,000 for Design with Fabrication Funds Pending

BACKGROUND: The Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG), the New Mexico Department of Transportation, and local governments in the Belen to Bernalillo corridor are developing a commuter rail system designed to serve the middle Rio Grande Valley. The service is scheduled to begin in late fall 2005 between Belen and Bernalillo, with service potentially being extended to Santa Fe. Initially, there will be 8 boarding platforms in 6 different governmental jurisdictions: Belen, Los Lunas, Bernalillo County (north and south valley), the City of Albuquerque, Sandia Pueblo, and the Town of Bernalillo (downtown and north).

PURPOSE: The project intent is to commission public art to promote a strong sense of visual continuity along the entire route and to accent and celebrate each community's unique identity. The public art elements should enhance the riders' experiences as they board and de-board the train.

ELIGIBILITY: The commuter rail public art project is open to New Mexico artists only.

SELECTION PROCESS: The MRCOG and the various municipal and tribal jurisdictions with commuter rail platforms, as described above, represent the public art stakeholders. Representatives from these stakeholder communities will be known as the Local Selection Committee, or LSC. An already established design team has been working to develop the train stations and the actual platform designs and functions. Some members of the design team are serving as stakeholders on the LSC.

The LSC will review all artists' proposals and select the artist or artist team. The LSC will submit the selected artist or artist team to the governing body of each entity. Public art funds are currently committed from MRCOG and Bernalillo County. Additional funds from other stakeholders are under negotiations. The MRCOG will make the final approval of the recommended selected artist(s).

The Bernalillo County Public Art Program in collaboration with MRCOG will provide the commuter rail public art project and contract management.

WHEN: Commuter rail service is scheduled to begin in late fall 2005 with completed platforms in place at 7 of the 8 station sites. Construction documents for the actual platform and the primary platform elements (canopy, lighting, signage, etc.) will be ready for bid by early April 2005. The LSC intends to select an artist or artist team by early April 2005 and issue a professional services contract by mid-April. This would allow for ample design and fabrication time.

PUBLIC ART SCOPE: While the commuter rail design team explored a number of potential art opportunities on the platform, windscreens are the most promising art opportunity. Windscreens meet the three primary criteria used to evaluate the range of opportunities that were identified. These criteria include: 1) the art opportunity must not compromise the timeline for construction or platform opening, 2) the opportunity must be functional, and 3) the opportunity must be present at all platforms in the corridor.

Each of the platforms will have between six and eight windscreen panels measuring 7' 4" w. x 6' t. The selected artist(s) will be expected to provide initial design services for an artwork element specifically tied to the function of the windscreens that will be located on each commuter rail platform. Fabrication funds will be pursued during the artist(s) selection process and contract period and the budget will be established for the artist(s) to incorporate during the design phase of services.

The selected artist(s) may have additional opportunities to participate in other platform design elements, but such participation is not required nor guaranteed throughout the process and would be contingent on other constraints such as timeframe and budget.

For more information about the entire commuter rail project, and to view preliminary construction drawings, please visit http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/commuter_rail.htm

The primary scope for this prospectus is as follows. The artist will be required to:

- 1) Collaborate with MRCOG, the project architect(s), and the LSC members to design a unifying art element to function as a protective substrate for the windscreens and to incorporate the art element into engineering documents. (NOTE: Artists should consider windscreen materials carefully, as the windscreen artwork must retain some level of transparency to assure visibility to opposite sides of the platform.)
- 2) Work with designated LSC members' community input process to integrate unique elements into the overall unified windscreen artwork design that reflects each community's identity.
- 3) Fabricate the designed artwork for the 8 platforms, as fabrication funds are made available.
- 4) Fabrication and installation of the designed artwork must fall within the budget guidelines established prior to the execution of the design contract.
- 5) Work with architect and construction manager to coordinate installation.

- 6) Provide additional design services for individual platforms and/or stations as requested by each community depending on timeframe and available additional funds.
- 7) If requested, remain on contract for future design or fabrication for remaining stations developed in the Bernalillo to Santa Fe corridor.

TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

April 4, 2005 Artists' Submission Deadline
 April 6, 2005 LSC Review of Submissions
 April 13, 2005 Approval of selected artist(s) by local jurisdictions
 April 14, 2005 LSC report selected artist(s) to MRCOG
 April 15, 2005 Award Contract

PROJECT BUDGET: Up to \$20,000 is available for the overall windscreen design services at the time of publication of this prospectus. Fabrication and installation funds are under negotiations and expected to be finalized between the contributing stakeholders by the contract execution date. The fabrication budget will be established for the artist(s) to incorporate into the design phase of services prior to the contract execution.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Submission packages must be sealed and received *in* the Bernalillo County Manager's Office by 4:00 p.m. (local time) at One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor, Room 10010, Albuquerque, NM 87102 on Monday, April 4, 2005. Please mark your package "1% for Public Art Program, Commuter Rail Project". Late submissions will not be accepted. Overnight or express delivery is not recommended due to irregular carrier handling procedures, which can result in delivery location confusion. The County is not responsible if submissions are not received *in* the County Manager's Office by the deadline. The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt of submissions *in the County Manager's Office* is the time-date stamp on the proposal package or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the County Manager's Office.

A proposal package must consist of the following items: a letter of intent, sketch(es), slides and slide key (or appropriate digital media), artist resume, and a return envelope. Following is a detailed description of the requirements for each of these components, including page-size and page-length limits. Note that for most components the information should be presented on 8 ½- by-11-inch pages. All items will be returned.

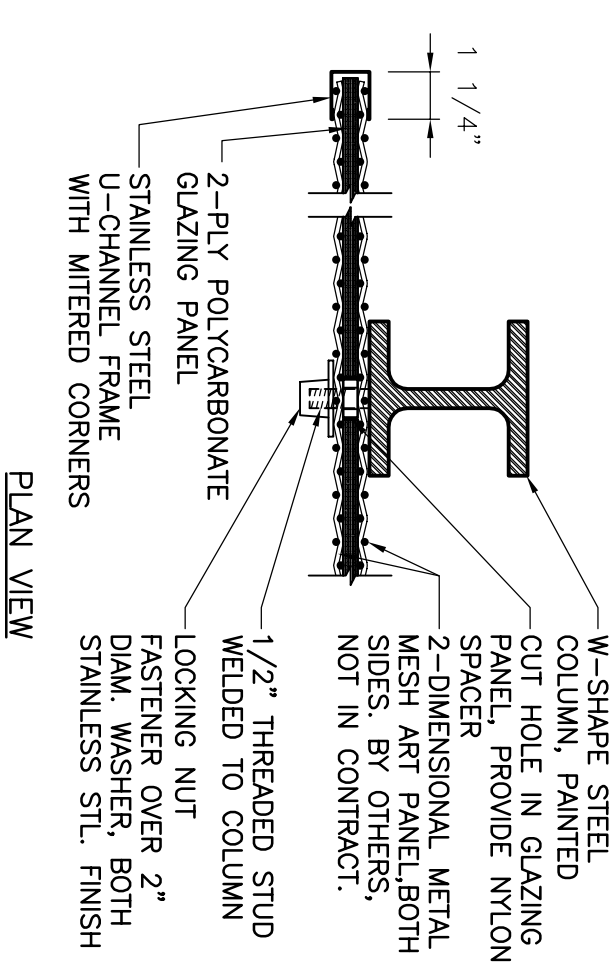
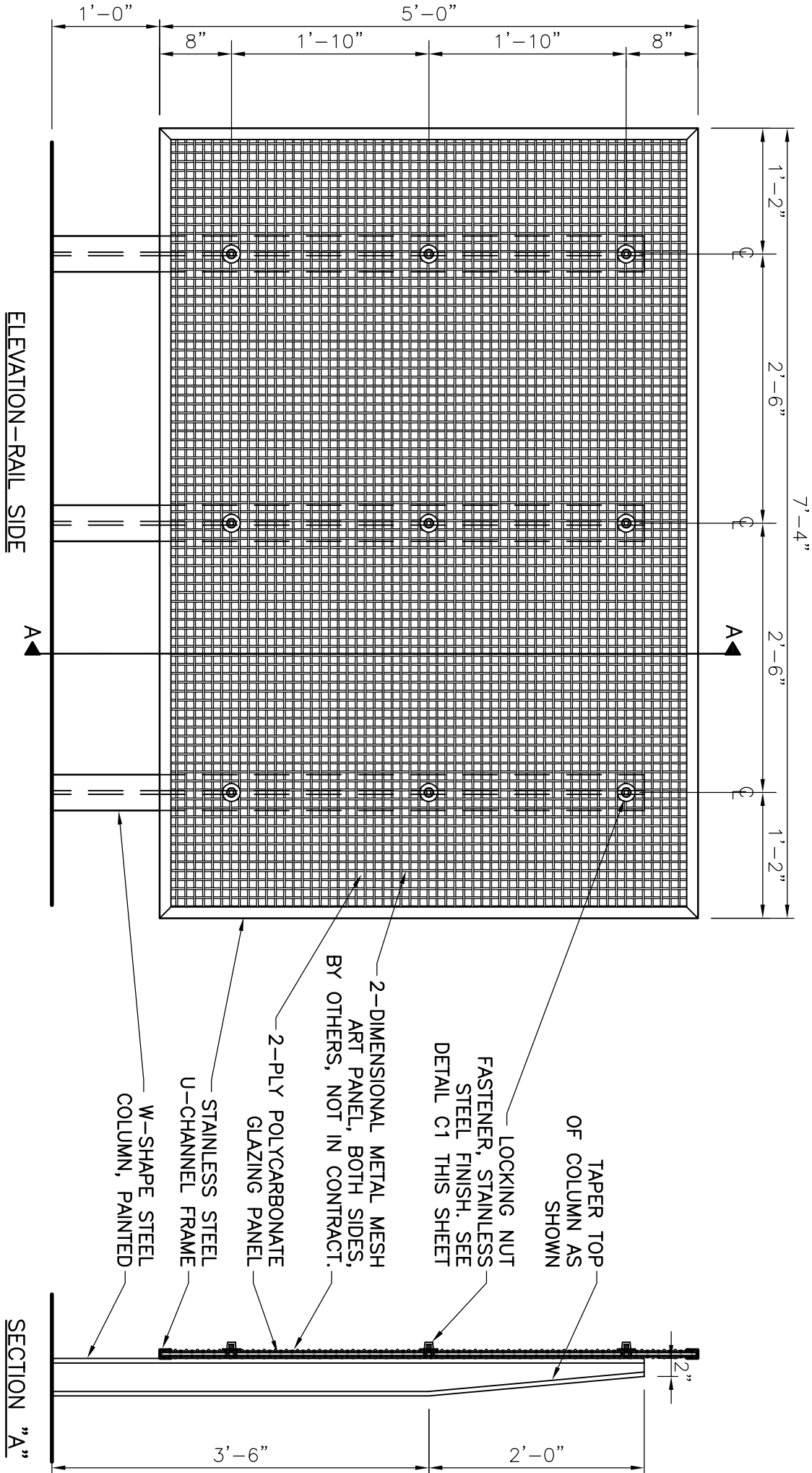
1. **Letter of Intent.** This letter should describe the overall streetscape artwork concepts for meeting the requirements of this prospectus, the proposed media for the artwork elements, and the basic plan for implementing the project. The letter should not exceed two 8 ½- by-11-inch pages. The letter of intent should clearly address the artist's/team's approach to the site and overall sense of scale for the design. (NOTE: Artists should consider windscreen materials carefully, as the windscreen artwork must retain some level of transparency to assure visibility to opposite sides of the platform.)
2. **Preliminary Sketch:** In order to better understand the artist's/team's visual communication skills and techniques, artists/teams must submit one or two

preliminary sketches, tracings, or photo or digital composites to visually convey the proposed sense of scale, mass, flow, repetition or other artistic quality relevant to the use of the windscreen space and sites. The LSC understands that the submitted sketches are only an *initial response to the site* and will be used to evaluate visual communication skills necessary for actual proposal and project development.

3. **Slides and Annotated Slide List.** Up to 20 slides or 20 digital images can be submitted. The slides or digital images should include examples of recent artworks that demonstrate the artist(s) design and construction ability. Each slide or image should be numbered and should include the artist's name. The slides should be accompanied by a numbered slide list that provides the year, size, media, and location of the artworks. The slide list should not exceed three 8 ½- by-11-inch pages. For digital media, please provide the images on a CD in the form of individual JPG's or in a PowerPoint presentation file.
4. **Artist Resume.** A current resume must be provided. If submitting as a team, a current resume should be submitted for each team member. Resumes should not exceed four 8 ½- by-11-inch pages.
5. **References.** A list of at three professional references that have intimate knowledge of the artist's work and working methods. The list must include complete and current addresses and telephone number(s), or e-mail.
6. **Return Envelope.** The return envelope should be large enough to accommodate all of the materials submitted in the proposal package that you want returned. The Bernalillo County Public Art Program will provide the return postage.

QUESTIONS? Call the Bernalillo County Public Art Program Manager, Sherri Olsen, at (505) 768-4257 or e-mail ssolsen@bernco.gov. Or, visit the Mid-Region Council of Governments web page at http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/commuter_rail.htm

DEADLINE: Monday, April 4, 2005 by 4:00 p.m.



WIND SCREEN ELEV./SECT. **A1**
NOT TO SCALE 01-A401

WIND SCREEN FASTENER **C1**
NOT TO SCALE 01-A403